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Afghan Ambassador to Speak at Cal Poly Nov. 10  
for International Education Week

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Said Tayeb Jawad , Afghanistan 's Ambassador to the United States , will be the keynote speaker Nov. 10 during International Education Week at Cal Poly.

The ambassador and a group of Afghan dignitaries will visit campus thanks to an invitation from Cal Poly Ethnic Studies Professor Maliha Zulfacar, a native of Afghanistan working to build education opportunities for women in that country.

Jawad will speak from 11 a.m. to noon on Thursday, Nov. 10 , in Chumash Auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

International Education Week is an initiative of the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Department of Education. Its goal is to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn and exchange experiences.

Cal Poly's International Education and Programs Office is sponsoring several events on campus throughout the week to highlight programs and opportunities. "It is very clear that broadening our understanding of the world outside our borders is critical," said International Education Program Director John Battenburg. "International education programs present offer firsthand experience in the study of foreign languages and cultures and provide opportunities for all students to broaden their knowledge of the world."

#### **About Ambassador Jawad**

Jawad was appointed as Afghanistan 's ambassador to the United States by Afghan President Hamid Karzai in 2003. Jawad also serves as Afghanistan 's non-resident ambassador to Mexico , Brazil and Argentina and accompanies President Karzai on most foreign trips.

Prior to his appointment as ambassador, Jawad had served as Karzai's press secretary, chief of staff, and as the director of the Office of International Relations at the Presidential Palace. Jawad has worked closely with national leaders on rebuilding and prioritizing reforms in Afghanistan .

Among his many accomplishments, he was instrumental in drafting Afghanistan 's foreign investment laws and also served as Karzai's principal liaison with the constitutional commission during the drafting of Afghanistan 's new constitution.

Ambassador Jawad was educated at the Afghan French Lycée Istiklal and School of Law and Political Sciences at Kabul University . Shortly after the Soviet invasion in 1980, he left the country and went into exile in Germany , where he studied law at Westfaelische Wilhelms University in Muenster. In 1986 he came to the United States , where he received his MBA from Golden Gate University in San Francisco and worked for a number of prominent law firms. He is fluent in English, German and French.

For more information on Ambassador Jawad, visit:

<http://www.embassyofafghanistan.org/embassy/home.nsf/level2/biography?OpenDocument>

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